



PREBLE *Post*

August 2013

USS PREBLE (DDG 88)
FPO AP 96675 - 1303

Website: www.preble.navy.mil
Facebook: www.facebook.com/USSPREBLE

From the Bridge

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Send comments and suggestions
to
pao@ddg88.navy.mil



As we conclude the month of August, I am convinced that there's no better time to be a Sailor onboard USS Preble! Why? Well, for one, in August we passed the halfway mark of our deployment. Having reached such a milestone, I am happy to report that the deployment has thus far been a tremendous success! How do I measure success? I measure it in a number of ways, but here's how I can best relate our success to you: 26 Enlisted Surface Warfare Specialist qualifications and about 20 waiting in the wings, which tells me that we have a motivated, knowledgeable, and able-bodied crew. How else do I measure success? Well, we've had well deserved port visits to South Korea, Japan, Guam, and Australia with no safety incident, injuries or accidents! Exercising safety and good decision making ashore is a sign that our Sailors are doing things right! Success is also measured by how well we accomplish our mission, and so far the crew has performed spectacularly: more than three months of carrier strike group operations! Those operations include warfare exercises, operating with other navies, conducting underway replenishments (16 at last count), over 100 hours of flight operations, exercising our guns, both large and small, performing boat operations, and conducting the day-to-day business inside the skin of the ship. Keeping this 9,200 ton vessel operating is no small order!

Arriving in Yokosuka last week, we also conducted an Off-Site seminar to discuss command-wide challenges, next year's training cycle, and the much anticipated homeport shift. I will write a detailed Off-Site summary letter for the OMBUDSMEN and FRG to distribute to all family members at the next FRG meeting. I think you'll be excited to see all that was discussed, and glad to know that every Sailor in Preble is afforded an understanding and a voice in the issues affecting the ship, each Sailor, and each family.

I appreciate all that you're doing back home to keep our families strong. Please, do not hesitate to call the OMBUDSMEN or FRG leaders should you need information or assistance. Remember: The tent over the Preble family is big! We're in this together!

Warm regards,
CDR Bob Bryans

Command Master Chief's Corner



HOOYAH Team PREBLE Family!

Well, we are over halfway through our demanding and critical deployment out here on the Pacific Rim. Your loved ones are leading the Fleet in their professionalism and pure talent, which was acknowledged by the Commodore in an unprecedented honor as naming USS PREBLE the Flagship of the historic Destroyer Squadron 15. This is an extremely significant accomplishment, and an honor to be serving on the front lines of a potentially volatile region.

Let me give you a brief history of Destroyer Squadron 15, with their motto proudly displayed as "Champions of Freedom". In 1942, the squadron was re-established and bravely fought in the Mediterranean Campaign during World War II, then the squadron moved to San Diego to defend the Pacific during the Korean War, and finally in 1971, Destroyer Squadron 15 departed its homeport of San Diego to Yokosuka, Japan to defend United States interests in the region. Today, Commodore Paul

Lyons commands Destroyer Squadron 15 and his eight aegis destroyers, to include USS PREBLE, and maintains superiority in the region and freedom on the high seas.

As we continue to protect the interests of the United States on the far side of the world, your loved ones have been sacrificing their valuable liberty time through community relations projects and ensuring the word "EXCELLENCE" and the name USS PREBLE are commonly used in every country we've visited. Our Community Relations Officer, NC1(SW/AW) Cesar Portillo, coordinated some truly extraordinary events and your sailors had a rewarding experience at the Wettengel Elementary School in Guam, the Children's Hospital in Sydney Australia, and the local orphanage in Busan Korea. Petty Officer Portillo's team of dedicated Sailors provided exceptional service and significantly increased relations with our allied nations.

As our deployment begins to wind down, our Ombudsmen Joleen Mitchell and Ashley Byrd, and our Family Readiness Group team, led by Heather Wooldridge, will be ensuring you are ready for our return. Yes, our homecoming may seem far away; however, it really is just around the corner. Therefore, we all need to start making plans for our return! Both your loved ones and our PREBLE support teams are fully engaged in ensuring you have a memorable return, and we are all committed to providing you with an unforgettable homecoming...you deserve it. In saying that, there is still help needed! Please contact our Ombudsmen and/or our FRG President to volunteer. I absolutely understand that we are extremely busy; however, volunteering a small amount of time or a small monetary donation can ensure our goals are met. Thank you for your time and it is an honor and privilege serving as your Command Master Chief Team PREBLE!

Sincerely,
CMDM(SW/AW) Matthew Logsdon



CMC Designates 4 Enlisted Surface Warfare Specialists!

Operation: ROARING TIGER

Please take a moment to read up on the guidelines below for PREBLE's 2013 TIGER CRUISE!

-LT Aliano is your single point of contact for OPERATION ROARING TIGER.

Email: alianoa@ddg88.navy.mil

Cell Phone (In port): 978-314-0923

Ship's Phone (In port PH): To be released upon entering port

Please do not contact Naval Base Pearl Harbor or any other entity with questions regarding this process.

-The official embarkation date is 11 November 2013. The command will not be able to support any Tigers staying overnight prior to the 11th of November.

-Tigers are free to arrive in Pearl Harbor prior to 11 November; however, they will need to coordinate their lodging until the night of the 11th. Neither base housing nor barracks are available on Naval Base Pearl Harbor. Temporary lodging may be available on base however. Please call 1-877-NAVYBED or email PH_CBH_RESERVATIONS@NAVY.MIL to check for availability. You may also contact the Hale Koa Hotel in Waikiki Beach (30 min drive from base) for reservations. Please use the Hale Koa website for planning: <http://www.halekoa.com/>

- Tigers have the freedom to choose any local accommodations prior to embarkation. Tigers MUST stay overnight onboard PREBLE on the 11th of November in preparation for an underway on the following morning.

-The meeting point for all Tigers will be at the Honolulu Airport's (HNL) USO. PREBLE will provide a bi-hourly van run to bring tigers to the command starting on the 10th of November. We request that you have your sponsor meet you at the airport however. The van will pick up and drop off outside of the USO.

-TIGERS must be older than the age of 8. Any minors traveling alone must be met at the arrival gate at Honolulu airport by their sponsor. An extra fee may be incurred as a result.

- TIGERS must be able to go up and down ladders and move about the ship in case of an emergency. No crutches, no casts, no disease or injury that would prevent someone moving about the ship safely. Safety is the key here. TIGERS with uncontrolled high blood pressure, diabetes etc will not be cleared for medical reasons. Medical and embarkation forms have been pushed out to all members of team PREBLE.

-TIGERS without DOD issued identification cards must be escorted at all times while on base in Pearl Harbor.

-Coordinators will provide a final list of names of Tigers who will be granted gate access due to their not having a DOD issued ID card to Naval Base Pearl Harbor prior to 11 November.

-PREBLE recommends purchasing flights early in order to defer cost. One way flights from San Diego to Honolulu cost about \$230-\$270 at this time.

-An additional fee of approximately \$100 will be assessed for each TIGER. This fee will cover the cost of food, a TIGER PIN, T-shirt, and transportation.

*****OPERATION ROARING TIGER is susceptible to changes in PREBLE's schedule. TIGERS are implored to purchase insurance or any other "safety net" available to ensure that a full refund is in order. If a TIGER's flight is delayed passed PREBLE's scheduled underway, the TIGER is solely responsible for purchasing a return ticket home. I will make all participants fully aware of any pending schedule changes via PREBLE sponsors and via Facebook post. *****

Sydney, Australia

Story by ENS Damen Weeks



USS PREBLE (DDG 88) arrived in Sydney, Australia July 29 for the fifth port visit of her 2013 deployment to the 7th Fleet area of operations. It is every sailor's dream to be part of a port visit to Australia, and rightly so. Sydney can almost overwhelm a visitor with things to see and do. From attending an Opera at the world famous Sydney Opera House to exploring the wildlife zoo that featured kangaroos, a 15 feet long Crocodile, and a few Tasmanian devils. As we move on to continue our 2013 deployment, we will look back on Sydney as one of the best ports we have visited thus far.

On July 31st, Visitors from the Australian Army and Navy toured our mighty warship (photographed right).

"I had a great time interacting with the Australians and sharing my underway experiences with them" says LTJG Justin Langan, one of the helicopter pilots onboard PREBLE.

Our volunteers headed to the West Mead Children's Hospital to strengthen community relations.

"It was a great chance to chat with the kids and to encourage them to stay positive. Also, they were very curious about what the United States was like, so we gladly shared stories with them" says NC1(SW) Cesar Portillo, community relations and volunteer coordinator for PREBLE.



PS1(SW/AW/SWC) Jayjay Robles interacts with one of the patients and nurses at West Mead Children's Hospital.

CDR Bob Bryans, Commanding Officer of USS PREBLE, with Executive Officer Commander Jeffrey Heames had the privilege of touring the Sydney Harbor with Commodore Partridge of the Australian Navy.

"The Australians were terrific hosts. Commodore Partridge of Fleet Headquarters in Sydney, was kind enough to give us a personal tour of Sydney harbor in his commodore's gig.

Seeing Sydney's many sites from the gig and listening to CDRE Partridge explain the historical significance of each was a real treat, one that we won't soon forget" says CDR Bryans.



Halfway Party!

Story by ENS Kate Holleran

PREBLE's Morale, Welfare, and Recreation team was out in force during August! Perhaps the biggest hit of the month was the half way party held on the Flight Deck on August 11th. Reaching the half way point in a deployment is a significant landmark for any crew and it comes with various sentiments; "We're almost done," "It's all downhill from here," "We're *only* halfway?!"

Surely a deployment runs its roller coaster course of emotions. However, the hope of holding an event like this party is to pump up the crew, blow off a little steam, and then renew our energy to continue our vital mission in the world.

Many exciting events were planned and anticipated to include a kite flying contest, a pie in the face rally, and a *carne asada* themed dinner.

There was an impressive turnout for the kite flying contest. Divisions from across the ship displayed their creativity and innovation as they ventured to make a contraption that could both fly and attract the attention of the audience. Mostly made from yarn, garbage bags, and tape, the participants needed to use only items that could be gathered from the ship to design and construct their kites. Most demonstrated much skill and ability, but the winner was NC1 Cesar Portillo who won for sustained kite flying capability and appearance. Way to go NC1!



Next was the highly anticipated pie in the face rally where 11 men and women were subjected to the fun. For days leading up to the party, the entire crew submitted their bids to the MWR committee who tallied up the scores. Whoever the top 11 people were to pull the highest amount of money were in turn pied by the sailor who contributed the most. The top 3 people to rake in the most money were STGCS Barajas, BM1 Valdez, and FCC Spencer.



The evening rounded out with a great meal, put on by the finest Culinary Specialists and Food Service Assistants in the Navy, with a *Carne Asada* theme complete with seasoned steak, homemade guacamole, and delicious salsa. Thank you CS's!



MIDSHIPMEN TRAINING

Story by
ENS Kate Holleran



The officers and crew of USS Preble hosted a group of 15 midshipmen from around the country for 10 action packed days of training during the month of August.

Preble embarked the midshipmen during a port visit to Sydney, Australia, the ship's fifth port visit since beginning the current deployment in April. Upon leaving Sydney, Preble transited north to fulfill duties as an escort for the aircraft carrier USS George Washington (CVN 73).

The underway time afforded the group an opportunity to join the crew and take part in a wide range of underway training missions, catching a glimpse into the surface Navy.

Preble's primary goal for the midshipmen training was to fully incorporate them into the daily life aboard a surface warship and help shape their expectations for when they eventually join the fleet as ensigns. The secondary goal was to provide opportunities to witness the excitement of being aboard a combat ready naval warship on deployment.

The officers and crew also talked to the midshipmen about resiliency, resource management, attention to detail, tactical expertise, seamanship and navigation, skills that they will need as naval officers.

Midshipmen 1st class were partnered with a few of Preble's finest first tour division officers while midshipmen 2nd class were assigned to highly motivated enlisted running mates.

The goal of the first class cruise was to be completely integrated into the wardroom and become familiar with what it takes to be an effective division officer. For a second class Midshipman, their primary objective was to live a day in the life of an enlisted Sailor. All the midshipmen were expected to accompany their running mates on watch, for maintenance, for cleaning quarters, and all other daily tasks and routine events.

Every day on board was packed with evolutions and activities that provided the group of midshipmen with invaluable hands-on training. Evolutions included refueling at sea, flight operations, vertical replenishments, small boat operations and gunnery exercises.

Each midshipman also had the opportunity to shoot 25 rounds of two different types of crew served weapons as well as witness the firing of the ship's 5-inch gun.

For some midshipmen, the most memorable part of the cruise was the all hands swim call where they, along with the Preble crew, leaped from the ship for a refreshing swim in the Pacific Ocean. "I couldn't have asked for a better cruise this summer," said Midshipman 1st Class Azochar from the U.S. Naval Academy. "All of my expectations were far surpassed during my time on Preble."

In addition to the normal underway routine of surface warfare life, midshipmen were exposed to various professional development discussions with the commanding and executive Officers, junior Officers and the ship's chief petty officers mess. They also met with Rear Adm. Mark C. Montgomery, Commander, Task Force 70, who spent time with the midshipmen during his visit to Preble.

As the cruise was ending, one midshipman commented on the most impactful moment during her time. "My favorite discussion was with a couple of the junior officers and the executive officer when we discussed the typical pipe line of a surface warfare officer," said Midshipman 1st Class Maw from the U.S. Naval Academy. "The discussion helped clarify my questions regarding the community."



MIDN learn how to don a Fire Fighting Ensemble (FFE) during DC Olympics

ESWS!

Congratulations to more of PREBLE's finest for getting their ESWS pins!



DIVISION IN THE SPOTLIGHT

CE Division

Story by LTJG Eckstein

It has been a banner year in CE division. We recently received over 20 INSURV awards, recognizing all of the hard work that CE division has put forward over the past 6 months.

Also while we are on our second trip to Yokosuka, most of the division climbed Mount Fuji, checking the box on many people's bucket list.



IC1 Manuel has gone back home to San Diego to see his first child born. ETC(Sel) Rambaran was selected to Chief Petty Officer, a testament to the hard work and dedication of both his division and himself.

CE division is still rocking it as Preble's unsung heroes.



OI Division

Story by ENS Ko



One of our best Operation Specialists, OS2 Mosley will be leaving the division on September 12th where she will be heading to her next assignment at the United States Naval Academy. Before her departure, she will be re-enlisting on September 11th. She has been, and is, a hard worker who performed her tasks outstandingly. Our whole division is sad about her leaving and will miss her in her absence.

With a sad farewell, there is usually an exciting hello! We have a new sailor who reported to PREBLE, OS3 Glenn. He joined us in Yokosuka, JA and is working through the check-in process. We are happy to have him and we expect him to be a great asset to our division.

Things are as exciting as ever in OI, after completing an outstanding round of DITS, we've proved once again that we are personally and materially ready for any feat! Additionally, we are proud to acknowledge OS3 Nelmda, our newest qualified Enlisted Surface Warfare Specialist! Way to go OS3!

OI continuously steps up to the plate, aiding in all types of warfare areas and scenarios. These range from countless hours controlling organic and inorganic air assets as well as contribute to Anti-Submarine Warfare and Strike scenarios. I'm excited to see what the rest of deployment has for us as we continue operations in 7th fleet with the George Washington Strike Group.



USS GEORGE WASHINGTON Air Show

DIVISION IN THE SPOTLIGHT

EX Division

Story by ENS Kelcie Davis

Over the past month, PREBLE's Executive Department has welcomed a few fresh faces to its team. Three new and extremely energetic Sailors are helping make PREBLE's administration team the BEST IN THE FLEET. ENS Kelcie Davis (Division Officer), YN1 Tam Chau (Ship's Secretary), and PSSN Lisa Person (lead personnel manager) have all joined the department and have made an immediate and positive impact!

Our sailor's enjoyed our most recent port visit to Sydney, Australia and were able to experience a number of fun and exciting activities. PSSN Person and PS1 Robles traveled to a local children's hospital where they visited with a number of patients. Our sailors also took advantage of the great shopping in downtown Sydney at a local market where they purchased one of a kind souvenirs such as hand-crafted boomerangs. A few of our sailors were also able to enjoy a visit to the world renowned Sydney Opera House, and were even able to see the opera, *Tosca*.

In addition welcoming new personnel, team ADMIN continued to push forward in effectively meeting administrative tasking head on. Our sailors have been working diligently to ensure that ship wide events are executed to the PREBLE standard. Our personnel specialists coordinated the travel arrangements for the two-week visit of 15 Midshipmen from various colleges across the country. Additionally, the team has processed the successful gain and transfer of over thirty five Sailors while on deployment; A HUGE accomplishment. Administratively, our Yeoman, through their Herculean efforts, ensured that PREBLE Sailors received their proper and well deserved recognition through the processing of over 100 various individual awards in the past two months!

Team ADMIN is continuing their press forward towards the end of deployment while operating with continued vigor, energy, and unparalleled drive.



YN2 Joyner receives her end of tour Navy Achievement Medal for her hard work and dedication during her time on PREBLE. You will be missed YN2!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY CO!

The Crew of PREBLE celebrated their Commanding Officer's Birthday, complete with a coffee flavored cake!



Across the Departments

WEAPONS

By LT Jacobson, WEPS

Combat Guns (CG): The division has been blasting its way through August! Early in the month, PREBLE caught word of a "killer tomato" on the loose... Not a problem for the Gunners and FCs of Combat Guns as they conducted Small Craft Attack Team qualifications on the .50 Caliber and M240 machine guns, effectively eliminating the notorious orange balloon. In addition, CG has kept the schedule busy by conducting two CIWS PACFIRES, three 5-inch PACFIRES, and two 25MM gunnery exercises. It's always a good month when PREBLE's guns are a blazin'. Thanks to CG Division, the trend continues! FC2 (SW) Havens' mural masterpiece is now complete and on display in the CIWS passageway for all to see. Her amazing artwork is indicative of the pride CG takes in all that they do. We also bid farewell to FC2 (SW) Hensley upon his departure from active duty. Fair winds and following seas, shipmate, as you embark on your next journey, and thank you for your service!



Combat Acoustics (CA): The STGs have stayed "active" lately, using PREBLE's sonar to clear the way for the Strike Group and to help other ships train. Sonar operators aren't just tied to their headsets, though. From topside preservation to keeping their spaces shipshape, they've kept up a steady strain since Sydney. Most importantly, a happy birthday to STG2 Poole and congratulations to both STG2 and STG3 Davis on their decisions to reenlist! STG2 Poole bought herself the opportunity to throw a pie at her Leading Chief Petty Officer, Senior Barajas! Thanks for raising big \$\$\$ for MWR, CA Division!



Combat Missiles (CM): The FCs and GMs are steadily working to maintain a high level of excellence onboard USS Preble. Crushing every FORTRESS RAPTOR and PREDATOR exercise possible, the Strike Team is a dominant force in the Western Pacific. The GMs are consistently rising to the occasion with their expert knowledge in maintaining our Vertical Launch System, a key capability that allows USS Preble to carry out its important mission. It's not all work, though... CM also has taken advantage of their port visits with divisional outings to the bowling alley and hiking tours. In Sydney, we said farewell to GMC (sel) Prescott, who left after an amazing 3 year tour onboard Preble.

NAV/EXEC

By LTJG Holst, NAV

It has been a busy several weeks for the Navigators of USS PREBLE. With the wrap-up of Talisman Sabre 2013, the QM's once again negotiated the complex scheme of maneuver back north to Japan, safely and with precision. Through several exercises and over thousands of miles of ocean, PREBLE's NN Division continues to distinguish themselves as the premier Navigators in the 7th Fleet, setting the example for other ships to follow.



NN also recently completed the command Division in the Spotlight inspection, where they maintained PREBLE's high standards of performance, qualifications, training, and material readiness. Alongside EX Division, the NAV/ADMIN Department 'turned to' and performed exceptionally well, setting the bar high for all other divisions. Trust your keel to those who wear the wheel!

Across the Departments

ENGINEERING



By LT O'Neil, CHENG

It seems like the month of August has flown by! After an extraordinary port visit in Sydney, Australia the Engineers are back at it! As Engineers, little changes in our daily schedules and we really do have a routine on board. This month's focus has been on making preparations for our post-deployment training cycle and our focus has shifted to practicing our evolutions and casualties (propulsion limiting) three to four times a week.



GSM3(SW) Shultz during our Refueling at Sea

Promotions

Re-enlistments

GSMC(SEL) Travis Hotter

Snipe of the Month

EN2(SW) Oscar Mayfield

EN2 Christopher Sipma

Qualifications

CWO2 Scott Carpenter-

LTJG Nate Hess-

GSM3(SW) Brian Shultz-

GSM2(SW) Theodore Eitel-

EM3(SW) Devon Harris-

DC3(SW) Erica Cruzhernandez-

GSM3(SW) Tiffany Scott-

DCFN(SW) Christian Kleiber-

Surface Warfare Officer and Officer of the Deck

Engineering Officer of the Watch

Enlisted Surface Warfare Specialist

Enlisted Surface Warfare Specialist

Enlisted Surface Warfare Specialist

Enlisted Surface Warfare Specialist

Enlisted Surface Warfare Specialist

Enlisted Surface Warfare Specialist

OPERATIONS

By: LT Hamm, OPS



August has been a busy month for Operations Department as Strike Group operations are a continuously shifting and demanding mission. Through the many evolutions and exercises, our motivated sailors have still found time to advance personally, as the amount of high level personal qualifications has skyrocketed. Junior Petty Officers have stepped up in positions usually reserved for those with much more experience and even Seaman have earned their Enlisted Surface Warfare Specialist (ESWS) designation! Through the daily operational grind and demanding deck evolutions, these sailors truly are the backbone of the

ship and their achievements are a huge motivation factor for all.

On another note, it is with emotion I write this month's article as I will be transferring in the upcoming weeks. I look back at my year and half with pride and amazement at all that we have accomplished as a department, a ship, and a team. Through a rigorous training cycle, high demand INSURV preparations and execution, and the amazing achievements and exercises excelled at thus far on deployment, I could not think of a better group of individuals and leaders to have met the same success. Down to the deck plates across the department, every sailor with pride and passion has put forward their best, and it is well known that Preble is a name lauded with praise for that. I will always look back with fond memories at my time onboard Mighty 88.

I send deep felt gratitude to my Operations Department, and especially to their families, friends, and support networks that have been by their side through everything, and look forward to hearing the great accomplishments that remain ahead for them as they finish Deployment strong and get home safely. LT Steve Stashwick will be taking over, and he is truly lucky to be joining such an amazing crew. Best of luck!

AIR DETACHMENT

Story By LTJG Justin Langan

The Air Department took full advantage of their opportunity to conduct practice search and rescue (SAR) jumps in order to enhance proficiency and gain confidence, learn the difficulties of real life rescue scenarios, and experience the warm and salty waters of the Pacific. Led by the Air Dept's lead aircrewman, AWR2 Hartman, each swimmer practiced day jumps, rescue procedures, and hoisting. The pilots, LT Cutting and LTJG Langan, also gained invaluable experience deploying rescue swimmers in the open ocean environment.

The SAR jumps were practiced from either a 10 foot / 10 knot slow creep or from a steady hover at 15 feet. One aircrewman played the victim/survivor while the other rescued him. The third aircrewman remained in the helicopter at the rescue station in order to practice hoisting operations. This training was conducted in conjunction with small boat operations which afforded the helicopter an added measure of safety. The crew in the RHIB, callsign "Protector," were available to render assistance to the rescue swimmers should they need it.

The importance of SAR proficiency cannot be overemphasized. At any moment the aircrew could be called upon to rescue the crew from a vessel in distress, a pilot that was forced to eject from an aircraft over the ocean, or even an over-ambitious sailboat crew that ventured too far from shore. These situations could arise at any time of the day or night, and also during unfavorable weather conditions and heavy sea states. Pilots and aircrewmen conduct SAR training flights, which build confidence in case a real scenario presents itself. This proficiency in SAR is directly related to how fast the crew can complete a search and rescue mission, which could mean the difference between life and death for a survivor.

During the open ocean SAR jump training, many challenges were overcome by the entire aircrew including the rescue swimmers battling the rotor downwash from the helicopter, hoisting difficulties, and drifting of the helicopter. The downward force of the rotor blades can affect the rescue swimmers by causing them to spin or break form when they jump out of the helicopter. Also, the rotor wash can make it challenging for the rescue swimmer and survivor to swim through the rotor arc in order to reach the rescue hoist. It is also challenging for the pilots to maintain the helicopter in the proper position, due to the winds and lack of a visual reference in the open ocean. It is imperative to have the hoist operator help the pilots "conn" the helicopter into the proper position to hoist the rescue swimmer and survivor into the aircraft. Working through these challenges, the aircrew were able to complete the evolution and gain priceless training value.

Another major difference between SAR training in the swimming pool and the open ocean was the sea itself. Even though the seas were relatively calm, the pure amount of salt in the ocean was difficult for the swimmers to deal with in their snorkels and masks, especially when accidentally ingested. Then vastness of the ocean made it challenging for the rescuers to locate the survivor, whose head was barely visible on the surface of the water. Luckily for the swimmers, the seas were crystal clear which allowed them to locate the survivor upon looking underwater a few feet below the surface.

Thanks to this incredible training opportunity, the pilots and aircrewmen of the PREBLE Air Department have a better awareness of the differences between conducting practice SAR jumps in the relatively calm waters of San Diego bay, and conducting jumps in the open ocean. Because of this training, when a search and rescue situation arises, the entire aircrew will be better prepared to save lives.



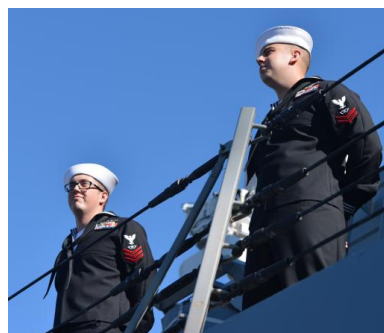
Across the Departments

COMBAT SYSTEMS

By: LTJG Margolis, FCO

Hello again from Combat Systems Department! August provided PREBLE and her Combat Systems team with several unique opportunities to enrich the training, readiness and wellness of her sailors. From Sydney, to George Washington strike Group Operations, to a Voyage Repair Availability in Yokosuka, CS Department has been busy.

Underway from Sydney to Yokosuka presented an opportunity CS has not seen yet this deployment: Without a major exercise planned, we were left with some serious time to conduct unit level training. As mentioned last month, sailors all through the department are working towards their highest levels of underway watch qualifications, and with several fully integrated Battle Force Tactical Trainer scenarios complete, they were able to make tons of progress. Congratulations to ET2 Lopez, CSOOW, and FC1 Chamberlen for qualifying MSS. All the while, individual damage control, inport and 3M qualifications continue in support of sailors earning their ESWS, following in the footsteps of ET3 (SW) Alupay and IC3 (SW) Sullivan, our newest Surface Warriors.



FC1 Maceachern and FC2 Micka man the rails inbound to Sydney, AUS

Shortly after we got underway, we celebrated our halfway party. Details are covered on page 5, but the big shout out goes to FC2 Entzminger and FCC Spencer, for their participation in the "Pie in the Face" competition. FCC hasn't eaten pie since!

Finally, this month marked our return to Yokosuka, Japan, providing us with the best service in terms of technical and material support. PREBLE is scheduled to conduct Voyage repairs, restoring systems degraded due to our high tempo operations while in support of the George Washington Strike Group. Repairs should keep us busy, but not so much that we will not get chance to see the sights of Japan.



SUPPLY

By: ENS Martinez, ASUPPO

A great beginning for the sake of our mighty warship's existence is the birth for which we are named. 252 years ago, on August 15, 1761, Commodore Edward Preble was born into our infant country and grew to become the only commodore of his time and led notable battles of victorious merit including those significant enough to go down in history along with that of our dense text books.

Not to discount those prestigious facts; but, this got me thinking about another notable day of birth pertaining to our Department of Defense: the US Naval Supply Corps. For over two centuries, the Supply Corps has been responsible for strategically sustaining the world's greatest navy. Its beginning speaks on account of the day President George Washington appointed Tench Francis, a Philadelphia businessman, as the country's first-ever Purveyor of Supplies on February 23, 1795. Herein the tale formally began inking her infinity-length story.

Today, nearly 25,000 officers, enlisted and civilian people make up a closely knitted network of the supply community. We have been credited for instilling a sense of morale within our commands that - as a Preble Sailor would tell you - can range in extremes. After all, it isn't uncommon to hear "it feels like Christmas" when the red supply bag stuffed with packages from loved ones, fresh food, tasty snacks and supply parts to keep our equipment running is dropped from the gray sleigh in the sky, otherwise known as SH-60 helicopters.

As you can see, Supply has made quite an imprint in the meticulous evolution of our country and her Navy. Our story is epic, yet so often untold. No matter, we continue to span and sail on, supplying an everlasting mission of excellence through our commitment alongside our brothers and sisters to be your Global Force for Good.



MWR

Your MWR team is proudly maintaining Ice cream socials and nacho night Fridays! This can often be a great reminder of a "weekend" mindset. In addition, every Saturday night we play another round of bingo with exciting prizes to include Bose speakers, cash prizes, and more! We also sponsor a wildcard event on Sunday mornings for the Captain's cup.



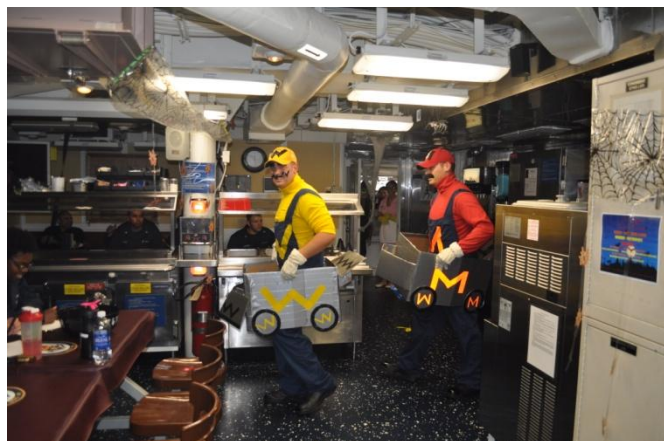
A huge crowd pleaser this last underway was the mighty arm wrestling contest. It was a fight right down to the end when FC3 Newton faced off against FC2 Banks. It was a nail biter but FC2 Banks mustered the extra energy to be victorious in the end!

While inport Yokosuka, many sailors participated in the MWR sponsored hike to Mount Fuji. It was a once in a lifetime experience for most, and PREBLE certainly made the most of the opportunity. We sent 3 bus loads full of sailors on the 29th and 30th of August, leaving base at 0200 in the morning and not returning until well past 2000.

What is up and coming? For our next Port visit, MWR is coordinating a Deep Sea Fishing trip and scuba diving opportunities. Additionally, we are concocting an all out Halloween bash complete with a costume contest and maybe even a ship wide Thriller dance!



*(LEFT) Halloween 2012 Costume Contest winners:
FC1 Sprout as Wario and FC2 McKenzie as Mario!*



Up and Coming

Upcoming Events

Yokosuka, Japan
Busan, ROK
Palau
Pearl Harbor

Long Term Outlook:

Operation Roaring Tiger, November 2013
Homeport Shift, Summer 2014

